

FOR THE WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department

United States of America

In the matter of the use of prisoners of war on enemy military installations at Kiangway Camp #2, POW Camp, outside of Shanghai, China, from January, 1944 to May, 1945.

Perpetuation of Testimony of Darrell Milton Beeson, Sgt. USMC 278470, 721 Valley, Carthage, Missouri.

Taken at: Circuit Court Room, Joplin County Court House, Carthage, Missouri.

Date: 7 January 1946.

In the Presence of: Ralph H. Duggins, Agent SIO, Intelligence Branch, Kansas City, Missouri.

Questions by: Ralph H. Duggins, Agent SIO, Intelligence Branch, Kansas City, Missouri

Q. State your name, rank, serial number and permanent home address?

A. My name is Darrell Milton Beeson, Cpl., USMC 278470, and my permanent home address is 721 Valley, Carthage, Missouri.

Q. Are you an American citizen?

A. Yes.

Q. How old are you?

A. I was born 6 January 1921 at Nevada, Missouri.

Q. What was the extent of your education?

A. I had an eighth grade education.

Q. What was your occupation before your entrance into the Marine Corps?

A. I was an oil station attendant and was in the ice business. I enlisted in the Marine Corps on 7 December 1939.

Q. What was your last assignment in the Marine Corps prior to your capture?

A. I was assigned to the Embassy Guard, Peking, China, at the time I was captured.

Q. Were you ever a prisoner of war?

A. Yes. I was captured at Peking, China, on 8 December 1941.

Q. State the approximate dates and places you were held by the Japanese?

A. I was captured 8 December 1941, at the Embassy, Peking, China, and liberated 16 September 1945, at Hakodate, Branch Camp #2. From 8 December 1941, to 10 January 1942, we were held in our barracks at Tientsin, China. We left there 27 January 1942, and arrived at Shanghai, on 1 February 1942, and transferred to the Wossung Camp, Shanghai, China, Prisoner Camp, Field Office 106. We stayed in this camp until approximately 6 December 1942. We were then taken to Kiangwang, which was still called the Shanghai Prisoner of War Camp. From 6 December 1942, to May 1945, we were prisoners at the Shanghai Prisoner of War Camp. During the four or five days in May 1945, we travelled to Fengtai (phonetic) by boxcar, outside of Peking, China, which was a railroad division point. We remained in this locality for one month and left the last of June 1945. We travelled by boxcar through Manchuria and Korea to Fusan, Korea. We remained in Fusan for one week, crossed the straits by boat to a small village close to Kaga (phonetic). We boarded a train on the evening of 3 July 1945. We were taken to Tokyo, Yokohama, and to a small port on northern Honshu. We landed at Hakodate and boarded a train to the central part of Hokkaido. We remained there thirty days during which time I worked in the mines of Akabura (phonetic). We were liberated one month later at Branch Camp #2 and taken by train from Akabura (phonetic) to the Ootice Airport and flown by plane to Tokyo, and then to Yokohama, and by boat to Guam, and by boat to the United States, landing at San Francisco on 11 October 1945.

Q. Are you acquainted with the circumstances concerning the use of prisoners on enemy military installations at Kiangwang Camp #2, POW Camp, outside of Shanghai, China?

A. Yes, I am.

Q. State of your own knowledge any information regarding the incident.

A. At the Shanghai Prisoner of War Camp from January 1944 to the time we left Shanghai, on various and many occasions we were forced to bury oil and gas drums in the ground adjacent to the Shanghai race track in Shanghai. This was due to the numerous bombing raids which the Japanese were undergoing at that time. Quite frequently we were forced to dig holes placing the drums for protection, and then a short time later removing these drums and burying them in other localities.

Q. Is there any further information you have concerning this incident?

A. No, I have stated all that I can recall about it.

(s) Darrell Milton Beeson
Darrell Milton Beeson, Sgt.
USMC NGN 278470

State of: OKLAHOMA)
SS
County of: CLEVELAND)

I, Darrell Milton Beeson, Cpl., USMC, NSN 278470, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(s) Darrell Milton Beeson
Darrell Milton Beeson, Sgt. USMC
NSN 278470

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of February 1946.

(s) Freda M. Salos
Notary Public

My Commission Expires
April 25, 1948

(S E A L)

DOC. NO. 8003

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Ralph H. Duggins, Agent STD, certify that Darroll Milton Boeson, Cpl., USMC, NSN 278470, personally appeared before me on 7 January 1946 and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth.

Place: Kansas City, Missouri (s) Ralph H. Duggins
Ralph H. Duggin Agent STD

Date: 24 January 1946

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY

(s) LINDSAY WILLIAMSON
LINDSAY WILLIAMSON
CAPT. JAGD

DOC. NO. 8003

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C E R T I F I C A T E

May 1, 1946

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached document is
a true copy of an affidavit purporting to be sworn and
subscribed to by Sgt. DARRELL MILTON BEESON, USMC 278470
at Cleveland County, Oklahoma on the 11th day of February,
1946.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that it was copied from an original
in my custody as Chief, Criminal Registry Division, Legal
Section, GHQ, SCAP, Tokyo, Japan.

(s) CHARLES A. REINHARD
CHARLES A. REINHARD
Lt. Col., F. A.
Chief of Criminal Registry
Division, Legal Section

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not used

答、私ノ名前ヘダアール・ミルトン・ビーソン
伍長デ米國海兵團二七八四七〇號、私ノ本籍
ハ、ミヅーリ洲カーセチ、ヴァレー七二二
番地デス。

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問、捕虜ニナツタコトガアルカ。

答、ハイ、千九百四十一年（昭和十六年）十二月
八日支那ノ北京デ捕虜ニナリマシタ。

問、君ハ中國ノ上海郊外ノ江灣キヂワング第二
俘虜收容所ニ於ケル俘虜ノ敵軍事施設ニ使役
セル件ニ關スル狀況ヲ知ツテキルカ。

答、ハイ、知ツテキマス。

問、ソコノ出來事ニ就イテ君自身ノ知ツテキルコ
トニ基キ報告ヲ記セ

答、千九百四十四年（昭和十九年）一月ヨリ我々
ガ上海ヲ離レル時マデ、上海ノ俘虜收容所ニ
於テハ色々ノ機會ニ度々上海市内ノ上海競馬
場ニ近イ所ニ油ヤ、ガスノドラム罐ヲ埋メサ

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セラレタ。之へ其時日本ガ受ケテキタ夥シイ
爆撃ノ爲デアツタ。我々へ絶エズドラム銃ヲ
藏ツテオク穴ヲ掘ツタリ、暫クシテカラ外ノ
場所ニソレヲ移シテ埋メタリサセラレマシタ。

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